

What Is Claimed Is:

1 1. An image forming method for forming an image
2 on a printable object on the basis of image data
3 obtained by editing images of a plurality of
4 originals, the method comprising the steps of:

5 determining an image composited area of a
6 first original by indicating coordinates of the
7 image composited area;

8 extracting an image extracted area of a second
9 original to produce image data pertaining to the
10 image extracted area by indicating coordinates of
11 the image extracted area;

12 editing the image data so as to composite the
13 image extracted area of the second original into
14 the image composited area of the first original in
15 order to obtain post-editing image data for
16 representing a composite image based on the first
17 and second originals; and

18 forming the composite image on a printable
19 object in accordance with the post-editing image
20 data.

1 2. The image forming method of claim 1, further
2 comprising a step of designating an editorial
3 process in which the image extracted area of the
4 second original is edited relative to the image
5 composited area of the first original, wherein the

6 editing step is performed in accordance with the
7 editorial process.

1 3. The image forming method of claim 1, wherein,
2 in a case where a portion or a whole of an image of
3 the second original is extracted, and is composited
4 into the first original, a size of an image
5 composited area of the first original is compared
6 in the editing step with a size of an image
7 extracted area of the second original, thereby
8 effecting a scaling process so as to fit an image
9 located in the image extracted area to the image
10 composited area.

11 4. The image forming method of claim 3, wherein
12 the image extracted area of the second original is
13 read in accordance with a scaling factor obtained
14 as a result of the scaling process.

15 5. The image forming method of claim 1, further
16 comprising a step of storing a portion or a whole
17 of image data pertaining to the respective first
18 and second originals, wherein a storage image
19 obtained in the storing step is read in the editing
20 step in order to composite a read image into the
21 image composited area of the first original.

1 6. The image forming method of claim 3, further
2 comprising a step of storing a portion or a whole
3 of image data pertaining to the respective first
4 and second originals, wherein a storage image
5 obtained in the storing step is read in the editing
6 step in order to composite a read image into the
7 image composited area of the first original.

1 7. The image forming method of claim 4, further
2 comprising a step of storing a portion or a whole
3 of image data pertaining to the respective first
4 and second originals, wherein a storage image
5 obtained in the storing step is read in the editing
6 step in order to composite a read image into the
7 image composited area of the first original.

1 8. The image forming method of claim 1, further
2 comprising a step of storing a portion or a whole
3 of image data pertaining to the respective first
4 and second originals,

5 wherein, in a case where a storage image of
6 the second original obtained in the storing step is
7 composited into the first original, a size of an
8 image composited area of the first original is
9 compared in the editing step with a size of an
10 image extracted area from which the storage image
11 has been extracted, thereby effecting a scaling

12 process so as to fit an extracted storage image to
13 the image composited area.

1 9. An image forming system, comprising:

2 a coordinate input device which is capable of
3 indicating an image composited area of a first
4 original and an image extracted area of a second
5 original;

6 a command input device which is capable of
7 designating an editorial process in which the image
8 extracted area of the second original is edited
9 relative to the image composited area of the first
original;

10 a scanner section which reads image data on
11 the first and second originals;

12 an editing device which edits image data
13 pertaining to the image extracted area of the
14 second original so as to composite the image
15 extracted area of the second original into the
16 image composited area of the first original, in
17 accordance with the editorial process designated by
18 the command input device, in order to obtain post-
19 editing image data for representing a composite
20 image based on the first and second originals; and

21 a print device which forms the composite image
22 on a printable object in accordance with the post-
23 editing image data.

1 10. The image forming system of claim 9, wherein,
2 in a case where a portion or a whole of the second
3 original is extracted, and is composited into the
4 first original, the editing device compares a size
5 of an image composited area of the first original
6 indicated by the coordinate input device with a
7 size of an image extracted area of the second
8 original, thereby effecting a scaling process so as
9 to fit an image located in the image extracted area
10 to the image composited area.

1 11. The image forming system of claim 10, wherein
2 the editing device performs a process for causing
3 the scanner section to read the second original in
4 accordance with a scaling factor obtained as a
5 result of the scaling process.

1 12. The image forming system of claim 9, further
2 comprising a storage device which stores a portion
3 or a whole of image data pertaining to the
4 respective first and second originals read by the
5 scanner section,

6 wherein the editing device reads a storage
7 image from the storage device, and composites a
8 read image into the image composited area of the
9 first original.

1 13. The image forming system of claim 10, further
2 comprising a storage device which stores a portion
3 or a whole of image data pertaining to the
4 respective first and second originals read by the
5 scanner section,

6 wherein the editing device reads a storage
7 image from the storage device, and composites a
8 read image into the image composited area of the
9 first original.

14. The image forming system of claim 11, further comprising a storage device which stores a portion or a whole of image data pertaining to the respective first and second originals read by the scanner section,

wherein the editing device reads a storage image from the storage device, and composites a read image into the image composited area of the first original.

15. The image forming system of claim 9, further comprising a storage device which stores a portion or a whole of image data pertaining to the respective first and second originals read by the scanner section,

wherein, in a case where a storage image read from the storage device is composited into the first original, the editing device compares a size

9 of an image composited area of the first original
10 indicated by the coordinate input device with a
11 size of an image extracted area from which the
12 storage image has been extracted, thereby effecting
13 a scaling process so as to fit an extracted storage
14 image to the size of the image composited area of
15 the first original.

image data ^x ^y ^z ^t
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